

REMARKS

Claims 12, 13, 17-25, 28, 29, and new claim 76 are in this application.

Claims 12, 17, 18, 22, and 23 have been amended.

New claim 76 has been presented to provide applicant with the scope of coverage to which they are entitled.

Claims 16, 17, 22, and 27 have been objected to but have been indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

Claim 12 has been amended to contain the allowable subject matter of claim 16 and the limitation of claim 14. Therefore, claim 12 and its dependent claim 13 are submitted as being allowable.

Claims 14, 15, and 16 have been canceled.

Claims 17 and 18 have been amended to depend from amended claim 12 and therefore, are submitted as being allowable.

Claim 19 is dependent from claim 12, as amended, and therefore, claim 19 and each of its dependent claims 20 and 21 are submitted as being allowable.

Claim 22 has been amended to remove redundancies, is dependent from claim 20, and therefore, is submitted as being allowable.

Claim 23 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claims 26 and 27 and therefore, is submitted as being allowable.

Claims 26 and 27 have been canceled.

Claims 24, 25, 28, and 28 are dependent from allowable amended claim 23 and therefore, are submitted as being allowable.

New claim 76 includes the limitation "wherein a length of each of the recesses is longer than a thickness of the cap and is smaller than that of the container."

This limitation is neither disclosed, taught, nor suggested by the art of record, including, specifically, WO 97/14967 previously applied prior to the present amendment of the claims.

Accordingly, new claim 76 is submitted as being allowable.

Request for Initialed/Considered Form PTO-1449

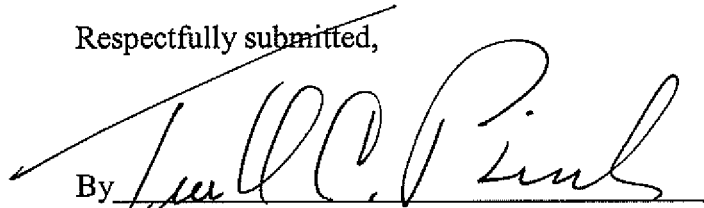
In reviewing the application file, the undersigned has noted that the appropriate initialed Form PTO01449 in response to the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed on September 7, 2004 has not been received by Applicant. Applicant has confirmed that the Information Disclosure Statement of September 7, 2004 was received by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and is present in the image file wrapper. The Examiner is therefore requested to consider the Information Disclosure Statement submitted on September 7, 2004 and return a copy of the initialed Form PTO1449 to the undersigned as soon as possible.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Terrell C. Birch (#19,382) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: September 27, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terrell C. Birch", is written over a horizontal line.

By Terrell C. Birch  
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